

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A digital camera having a normal shooting mode and a text shooting mode, comprising:

an image pickup unit which captures an image of a  
5 subject and converts the image into image data;

a compressing unit which generates compressed image data by compressing the image data outputted from said image pickup unit;

10 a storage unit which stores the compressed image data;  
a decompressing unit which decompresses the compressed image data;

a switching unit which switches the normal shooting mode to the text shooting mode and vice versa; and

15 an image processing unit which performs image processing to the image data,

wherein, after said decompressing unit decompresses the compressed image data of an image captured in the text shooting mode and stored in said storage unit, the image processing unit effects image processing appropriate to a  
20 transmission destination to resulting decompressed image data.

2. The digital camera according to claim 1, wherein, in the text shooting mode, said storage unit stores shooting  
25 condition data in a one-to-one correspondence with the

compressed image data, and the image processing unit effects the image processing to the image data based on said shooting condition data.

5 3. The digital camera according to claim 1, further comprising a data communication unit which allows a data communication with an external device.

4. The digital camera according to claim 3, further  
10 comprising:

a memory which stores name and/or telephone number and/or address of a destination, and an image deleting flag that specifies whether the image data should be deleted or not after transmission in a one-to-one correspondence; and

15 a deleting unit which deletes the image data that has been transmitted through said data communication unit in accordance with the image deleting flag stored in said memory.

20 5. The digital camera according to claim 3, further comprising a deleting unit which deletes the image data that has been transmitted through said data communication unit depending on a transmission destination.

6. The digital camera according to claim 4, wherein a manipulator is allowed to arbitrarily set a content of said memory.

5 7. A digital camera having a normal shooting mode and a text shooting mode, comprising:

an image pickup unit which captures an image of a subject and converts the image into image data;

10 a switching unit which switches the normal shooting mode to the text shooting mode and vice versa; and

an image processing unit which performs image processing appropriate to a transmission destination to the image data of an image captured in the text shooting mode.

15 8. The digital camera according to claim 6, further comprising a data communication unit which allows a data communication with an external device.

9. The digital camera according to claim 8, further 20 comprising:

a memory which stores name and/or telephone number and/or address of a destination, and an image deleting flag that specifies whether the image data should be deleted or not after transmission in a one-to-one correspondence; and

25 a deleting unit which deletes the image data that has

been transmitted through said data communication unit in accordance with the image deleting flag stored in said memory.

5 10. The digital camera according to claim 8, further comprising a deleting unit which deletes the image data that has been transmitted through said data communication unit depending on a transmission destination.

10 11. The digital camera according to claim 9, wherein a manipulator is allowed to arbitrarily set a content of said memory.

12. A digital camera having a normal shooting mode and  
15 a text shooting mode, comprising:

an image pickup unit which captures an image of a subject and converts the image into image data;

a compressing unit which generates compressed image data by compressing the image data outputted from said image  
20 pickup unit;

a storage unit which stores the compressed image data;

decompressing unit which decompresses the compressed image data;

a switching unit which switches the normal shooting  
25 mode to the text shooting mode and vice versa; and

an image processing unit which performs image processing to the image data,

5                   wherein, after said decompressing unit decompresses the compressed image data of an image captured in the text shooting mode and stored in said storage unit, the image processing unit effects processing including clipping, small-step gray scaling, and resolution changing to resulting decompressed image data, and further recompresses resulting processed image data.

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13. The digital camera according to claim 12, wherein, in the text shooting mode, said storage unit stores shooting condition data in a one-to-one correspondence with the compressed image data, and the image processing unit effects 15 the image processing to the image data based on said shooting condition data.

14. The digital camera according to claim 12, further comprising a data communication unit which allows a data 20 communication with an external device.

15. The digital camera according to claim 14, further comprising:

25                   a memory which stores name and/or telephone number and/or address of a destination, and an image deleting flag

that specifies whether the image data should be deleted or not after transmission in a one-to-one correspondence; and  
a deleting unit which deletes the image data that has been transmitted through said data communication unit in  
5 accordance with the image deleting flag stored in said memory.

16. The digital camera according to claim 14, further comprising a deleting unit which deletes the image data that  
10 has been transmitted through said data communication unit depending on a transmission destination.

17. The digital camera according to claim 15, wherein a manipulator is allowed to arbitrarily set a content of said  
15 memory.

18. A digital camera having a normal shooting mode and a text shooting mode, comprising:

an image pickup unit which captures an image of a  
20 subject and converts the image into image data;

a switching unit which switches the normal shooting mode to the text shooting mode and vice versa; and

an image processing unit which performs processing including clipping, small-step gray scaling, and resolution  
25 changing to the image data of an image captured in the text

shooting mode, and compresses the obtained image data.

19. The digital camera according to claim 18, further comprising a data communication unit which allows a data 5 communication with an external device.

20. The digital camera according to claim 19, further comprising:

10 a memory which stores name and/or telephone number and/or address of a destination, and an image deleting flag that specifies whether the image data should be deleted or not after transmission in a one-to-one correspondence; and

15 a deleting unit which deletes the image data that has been transmitted through said data communication unit in accordance with the image deleting flag stored in said memory.

21. The digital camera according to claim 19, further comprising a deleting unit which deletes the image data that 20 has been transmitted through said data communication unit depending on a transmission destination.

22. The digital camera according to claim 20, wherein a manipulator is allowed to arbitrarily set a content of said 25 memory.

23. A digital camera having a normal shooting mode and a text shooting mode, comprising:

an image pickup unit which captures an image of a subject and converts the image into image data;

5 a compressing unit which generates compressed image data by compressing the image data outputted from said image pickup unit;

a storage unit which stores the compressed image data;

10 a decompressing unit which decompresses the compressed image data;

a switching unit which switches the normal shooting mode to the text shooting mode and vice versa; and

an image processing unit which performs image processing to the image data,

15 wherein, after said decompressing unit decompresses the compressed image data of an image captured in the text shooting mode and stored in said storage unit, the image processing unit effects processing including clipping and small-step gray scaling to resulting decompressed image data, 20 and further effects data processing by means of character recognition to resulting processed image data.

24. The digital camera according to claim 23, wherein, in the text shooting mode, said storage unit stores shooting 25 condition data in a one-to-one correspondence with the

compressed image data, and the image processing unit effects the image processing to the image data based on said shooting condition data.

5 25. The digital camera according to claim 23, further comprising a data communication unit which allows a data communication with an external device.

10 26. The digital camera according to claim 25, further comprising:

a memory which stores name and/or telephone number and/or address of a destination, and an image deleting flag that specifies whether the image data should be deleted or not after transmission in a one-to-one correspondence; and

15 a deleting unit which deletes the image data that has been transmitted through said data communication unit in accordance with the image deleting flag stored in said memory.

20 27. The digital camera according to claim 25, further comprising a deleting unit which deletes the image data that has been transmitted through said data communication unit depending on a transmission destination.

28. The digital camera according to claim 26, wherein a manipulator is allowed to arbitrarily set a content of said memory.

5 29. A digital camera having a normal shooting mode and a text shooting mode, comprising:

an image pickup unit which captures an image of a subject and converts the image into image data;

10 a switching unit which switches the normal shooting mode to the text shooting mode and vice versa; and

15 an image processing unit which performs processing including clipping and small-step gray scaling to the image data of an image captured in the text shooting mode, and further effecting data processing by means of character recognition to resulting processed image data.

30. The digital camera according to claim 29, further comprising a data communication unit which allows a data communication with an external device.

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31. The digital camera according to claim 29, further comprising:

25 a memory which stores name and/or telephone number and/or address of a destination, and an image deleting flag that specifies whether the image data should be deleted or

not after transmission in a one-to-one correspondence; and  
a deleting unit which deletes the image data that has  
been transmitted through said data communication unit in  
accordance with the image deleting flag stored in said  
5 memory.

32. The digital camera according to claim 30, further  
comprising a deleting unit which deletes the image data that  
has been transmitted through said data communication unit  
10 depending on a transmission destination.

33. The digital camera according to claim 31, wherein a  
manipulator is allowed to arbitrarily set a content of said  
memory.

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34. A digital camera having a normal shooting mode and  
a text shooting mode, comprising:

an image pickup unit which captures an image of a  
subject and converts the image into image data;

20 a compressing unit which generates compressed image  
data by compressing the image data outputted from said image  
pickup unit;

a storage unit which stores the compressed image data;

25 a switching unit which switches the normal shooting  
mode to the text shooting mode and vice versa; and

a display unit which displays on a monitor a video of the subject before being shot,

wherein, in the text shooting mode, said display unit displays guidance to notify a shooting condition of a text  
5 while displaying on the monitor the video of the subject before being shot.

35. The digital camera according to claim 34, wherein the guidance includes a frame displayed to make a user aware  
10 of an area of a regular size sheet.

36. The digital camera according to claim 33, further comprising:

15 a memory which stores, in a one-to-one correspondence, name and/or telephone number and/or address of a destination, and frame display information that specifies whether or not the guidance should be displayed during shooting,

20 wherein said display unit controls display and non-display of the guidance in accordance with said frame display information stored in said memory.

37. The digital camera according to claim 33, wherein said display unit controls display and non-display of the guidance on said monitor depending on a transmission destination.

38. The digital camera according to claim 36, wherein a manipulator is allowed to arbitrarily set a content of said memory.

5 39. A digital camera having a normal shooting mode and a text shooting mode, comprising:

an image pickup unit which captures an image of a subject and converts the image into image data;

10 a switching unit which switches the normal shooting mode to the text shooting mode and vice versa; and

a display unit which displays on a monitor a video of the subject before being shot,

15 wherein, in the text shooting mode, said display unit displays guidance to notify a shooting condition of a text while displaying on the monitor the video of the subject before being shot.

40. The digital camera according to claim 39, wherein the guidance includes a frame displayed to make a user aware 20 of an area of a regular size sheet.

41. The digital camera according to claim 39, further comprising:

25 a memory which stores, in a one-to-one correspondence, name and/or telephone number and/or address of a destination,

and frame display information that specifies whether or not the guidance should be displayed during shooting,

wherein said display unit controls display and non-display of the guidance in accordance with said frame 5 display information stored in said memory.

42. The digital camera according to claim 39, wherein said display unit controls display and non-display of the guidance on said monitor depending on a transmission destination.

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43. The digital camera according to claim 41, wherein a manipulator is allowed to arbitrarily set a content of said memory.

15 44. A digital camera having a normal shooting mode and a text shooting mode, comprising:

an image pickup unit which captures an image of a subject and converts the image into image data;

20 a compressing unit which generates compressed image data by compressing the image data outputted from said image pickup unit;

a storage unit which stores the compressed image data;

a switching unit which switches the normal shooting mode to the text shooting mode and vice versa; and

25 a shooting angle detecting unit which detects a

shooting angle with respect to the subject,

wherein, in the text shooting mode, shooting is started when the shooting angle becomes substantially perpendicular.

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45. The digital camera according to claim 44, wherein said shooting angle detecting unit detects the shooting angle by recognizing a shape of the subject being shot.

10 46. A digital camera having a normal shooting mode and a text shooting mode, comprising:

an image pickup unit which captures an image of a subject and converts the image into image data;

15 a switching unit which switches the normal shooting mode to the text shooting mode and vice versa; and

a shooting angle detecting unit which detects a shooting angle with respect to the subject,

wherein, in the text shooting mode, shooting is started when the shooting angle becomes substantially perpendicular.

47. The digital camera according to claim 46, wherein said shooting angle detecting unit detects the shooting angle by recognizing a shape of the subject being shot.

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48. A method of shooting an transferring text using a digital camera, comprising the steps of:

monitoring a subject through a display unit at a monitoring command;

5 displaying guidance on said display unit during the monitoring;

capturing and compressing image data at a shooting command;

storing compressed image data in storage unit;

10 reading out and decompressing the compressed image data stored in said storage unit at a transmission command;

effecting image processing appropriate to a transmission destination to the decompressed image data; and

15 transferring the image processing performed image data to the transmission destination.

49. A method of shooting an transferring text using a digital camera, comprising the steps of:

20 monitoring a subject through a display unit at a monitoring command;

displaying guidance on said display unit during the monitoring;

capturing image data at a shooting command;

25 effecting image processing appropriate to a

transmission destination to captured image data; and  
transferring the image processing performed image data  
to the transmission destination.